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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 21, 94TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 31, 1975

Mr. William E. Colby
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Colby:

To follow the Select Committee's hearings on technical and human collection management issues and the production of national intelligence, the Committee would like you to appear on November 11 in executive session to discuss generally the problems the DCI faces in carrying out his formal responsibilities to (1) direct intelligence efforts toward important intelligence gaps; (2) to coordinate and evaluate all intelligence activities; and (3) to produce "objective" national intelligence.

In the two previous hearings, the Committee will have discussed (1) how technical collection systems are developed and tasked; and (2) how human collection activities are directed, coordinated, and approved. In these hearings, the following issues will be raised:

I. Technical Collection

- (1) What authority should the DCI have to set requirements for the buying and tasking of technical collection systems? Should the DCI have final responsibility for setting the requirements and budget of the National Reconnaissance Program?
- (2) Should the DCI also be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, given that his objectivity in determining which collection systems to buy is compromised by his also being head of an "interested" agency?

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- (3) How should the Congress be involved in deciding whether major technical collection systems are required, how much money they are worth, and when older systems will be retired?

II. Human Collection

- (1) Should the DCI also be head of the CIA's clandestine service?
- (2) Should the DCI have additional authority in human collection activities for one or more of the following activities:
 - Determine who (DDO or the military services) is best equipped to undertake a particular clandestine operation.
 - Verify that certain kinds of information can only be collected covertly.
 - Direct human collection (covert/overt) efforts toward Department or "national" needs.
 - Insure that there is no duplication in human collection.
 - Undertake to evaluate the human collection product.
 - Determine what method of collection -- satellites, human, or SIGINT -- would achieve the best result.
- (3) What, if any, role should the Congress play in directing or approving individual human collection programs?

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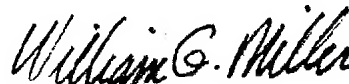
Your appearance before the Committee on November 11 will be preceded by a discussion of the production of national intelligence. The witness is yet to be determined. That session will address what organizational arrangements best produce objective national intelligence: (a) re-establishment of the Board of National Estimates; (b) separation of DDI analysis from DDO collection -- two separate agencies; (c) establishment of a separate analytical center composed of analysts from CIA, DIA, and INR; or (d) the present National Intelligence Officers system.

To conclude this set of hearings, the Committee would appreciate your candid discussion of all the above issues; how you as DCI have undertaken to direct community efforts toward national consumer needs in the face of independent program managers; and what recommendations you would make to the Committee for future legislation.

While the Committee would welcome a statement for the record, the hearing would begin with a brief statement by the Committee staff outlining the above issues and then asking you to respond.

In preparation for the hearing, the staff would like to arrange a convenient time to meet to discuss exactly how the hearing will proceed.

Sincerely,



William G. Miller
Staff Director

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